

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following paragraph for the first paragraph of the DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS.

The kraft paper sheet material 10 of the subject invention shown in Figure 21-24 is a paper sheet derived from cellulose fibers such as but not limited to dyed, bleached, or natural kraft paper sheet 12 (such as but not limited to a 35-38 lbs/3MSF natural kraft paper, a 30-40 lbs/3MSF lightweight kraft paper, or a 35-38 lbs/3MSF extensible natural kraft paper) with an asphalt coating layer 14 on a first major surface of the kraft paper sheet that is partially absorbed into the kraft paper sheet. Preferably, the asphalt coating layer 14 is coextensive with or substantially coextensive with the first major surface of the kraft paper sheet 12. The kraft paper sheet 12 forms a first major surface of the kraft paper sheet material 10 and the asphalt coating layer 14 forms a second major surface of the kraft paper sheet material 12. The asphalt coating layer is preferably applied to the kraft paper sheet in amounts ranging from about .03 to about .05 kilograms per square meter (about 6 to about 10 pounds per 1000 square feet) and contains one or more fungi growth inhibiting agents that make the kraft paper sheet material, including both major surfaces of the first sheet material, fungi resistant. While the asphalt coating layer 14 is absorbed into the kraft paper sheet 12 of the kraft paper sheet material 10, preferably, there is little or no asphalt bleed through to the second major surface of the kraft paper sheet and the second major surface of the kraft paper sheet is essentially free of asphalt. By keeping the second major surface of the kraft paper sheet 12 essentially free of asphalt, the asphalt does not adversely discolor or otherwise adversely affect the appearance or handling of a facing made of the kraft paper sheet material.

Please substitute the following paragraphs for the text of the specification beginning on page 15, line 31 and ending on page 19, line 25.

Figure 9 shows a partial cross section of a faced insulation assembly 120 of the subject invention with a facing sheet 122 that has Z-folded tabs 158 (only one of which is shown) and Figure 10 shows a partial cross section of a faced insulation assembly 220 with of the subject invention that has C-folded tabs 260 (only one of which is shown) that can be unfolded and extended beyond the lateral surface of the insulation layer 124 or 224 for attachment to and/or to overlay framing members. The Z-folded tabs 158 and C-folded tabs 260 are substituted for the tabs 34, are typically between about 0.25 and about 1.5 inches in width, and typically can be extended beyond the lateral surfaces of the insulation layers 124 and 224 between about 0.25 and about 1.5 inches. Like the central field portion 32 and lateral tabs 34 of facing 22, the central field portion 132 and lateral tabs 158 of facing 122 and the central field portion 232 the lateral tabs 260 of the facing 222 are made from the same piece of sheet material. The facing 122 is bonded to the surface 126 of the insulation layer 124 by adhesive layer 136 and the facing 222 is bonded to the surface 226 of the insulation layer 224 by adhesive layer 236.

Figures 11 and 12 show partial cross sections of additional embodiments 320 and 420 of the faced insulation assembly of the subject invention. In the facings 322 and 422 of the embodiments 320 and 420, lateral tabs 364 and 466 are substituted for the lateral tabs 34 of facing 22. The tabs 364 and 466 are made of materials that differ from the material used to form the central field portions 332 and 432 of the facings 322 and 422; are bonded by adhesive layers 368 and 470, by ultra sonic welding or by other bonding means to the upper surface of lateral edge portions of the central field portion 332 and 432 of the facings 322 and 422; and are typically between about 0.25 and about 1.5 inches in width. The tab 364 of the faced insulation assembly 320 is like the tab 34 of the faced insulation assembly 20. The tab 466 of the faced insulation assembly 420 of Figure 12 is a Z-folded tab. The tabs 364 and 466 can be unfolded and extended beyond the lateral surfaces of the insulation layers 324 and 424 (typically extended between 0.25 and 1.5 inches beyond the lateral surfaces of the insulation layers) for attachment to or to overlay framing members. The facing 322 is bonded to the surface 326 of the insulation layer 324 by adhesive layer 336 and the facing 422 is bonded to the surface 426 of the insulation layer 424 by adhesive layer 436.

Figure 13 shows an embodiment 520 of the faced insulation assembly of the subject invention wherein both the facing 522 and the insulation layer 524 are longitudinally separable to form faced insulation sections 572 having lesser widths than the faced insulation assembly 520. The facing 522 is bonded to the surface of the insulation layer 524 by the adhesive layer 536. The insulation layer 524 has one or more longitudinally extending series of cuts and separable connectors, schematically represented by lines 574, which enable the insulation layer 524 to be pulled apart or separated by hand into the insulation sections 572 of lesser widths than the insulation layer 524. For each such series of cuts and separable connectors 574 in the insulation layer 524, the field portion 532 of the sheet 530 forming the facing 522 has a line of weakness 576 therein that is longitudinally aligned with the series of cuts and separable connectors so that the facing can also be separated or pulled apart by hand at each series of cuts and separable connectors. The line of weakness 576 may be formed as a perforated line, as an etched score line that reduces the thickness of the sheet material along the line, or the line may be otherwise weakened to facilitate the separation of the facing sheet by hand along the line 576. Other than the one or more series of cuts and separable connectors 574 in the insulation layer 524 and the one or more lines of weakness 576 in the facing 522, the faced insulation assembly 520 of FIG. 13 is the same as the faced insulation assembly 20.

Figures. 14 and 15 show an embodiment 620 of the faced insulation assembly of the subject invention wherein both the facing 622 and the insulation layer 624 are longitudinally separable to form faced insulation sections 678 having lesser widths than the faced insulation assembly 624. The facing 622 has lateral tabs 634 and is bonded to the surface of the insulation layer 624 by the adhesive layer 636. The insulation layer 624 has one or more longitudinally extending series of cuts and separable connectors, schematically represented by lines 680, which enable the insulation layer 624 to be pulled apart or separated by hand into the insulation sections 678 of lesser widths than the insulation layer 624. For each such series of cuts and separable connectors 678 in the insulation layer 624, the field portion 632 of the sheet 630 forming the facing 622 has a fold 682 therein that is longitudinally aligned with the series of cuts and separable connectors. The two segments of each fold 682 are separably bonded to each other by an adhesive layer 684 and, typically, the fold line 686 joining the segments of each fold 682 will be perforated, scored, or otherwise weakened to permit the fold to be pulled apart or separated by hand at the fold line 686 to form tab segments. Preferably, each

segment of each fold 682 is between about 0.25 and about 1.5 inches in width. Other than the one or more series of cuts and separable connectors 680 in the insulation layer 624 and the one or more folds 682 in the facing 622 with weakened fold lines 686, the faced insulation assembly 620 of Figures 14 and 15 is the same as the faced insulation assembly 20.

Figure 16 shows a faced insulation assembly 720 of the subject invention that is faced with a facing 722 of the subject invention without preformed tabs. The faced insulation assembly 720 of Figure 16 includes the facing 722 and an insulation layer 724. Preferably, the insulation layer 724 is made of a resilient insulation material, such as but not limited to a fiberglass insulation, that can be compressed in the direction of its width, e.g. laterally compressed an inch or more, and, after the compressive forces are released, will recover or substantially recover to its initial width. The insulation layer 724 has first and second major surfaces 726 and 728, which are defined by the length and width of the insulation layer, and a thickness. The facing 722 of the faced insulation assembly 720 is formed by a sheet material that has a central field portion 732, that is substantially coextensive with the first major surface of the insulation layer 724, but has no preformed tabs. The central field portion 732 of the facing 722 has a first outer major surface and a second inner major surface. The central field portion 732 of the facing 722 overlays and is bonded, by an asphalt bonding layer 736 on and coextensive with the inner major surface of central field portion 732 of the facing, to the major surface 726 of the insulation layer 724. The asphalt bonding layer 736 bonding the central field portion 732 of the facing 722 to the first major surface 726 of the insulation layer 724 extends to the lateral edges of the insulation layer 724 and the facing 722. When the insulation layer 724 is compressed laterally to fit between a pair of framing members that are spaced apart a distance less than the width of the faced insulation assembly 720, the lateral edge portions 788 of the facing 722 can be separated from the insulation layer to extend beyond the lateral surfaces of the laterally compressed insulation layer 724 (e.g. between 0.25 and 1.5 inches) to form lateral tabs. However, if the installer does not desire to form lateral tabs on the facing 722 that extend laterally beyond the insulation layer when the insulation layer is compressed laterally, the installer can leave the lateral edge portions 788 of the facing 722 bonded to the lateral edge portions of the major surface 726 of the insulation layer.

Figures 17 and 18 show an embodiment 820 of the faced insulation assembly of the subject invention wherein both the facing 822 and the insulation layer 824 are

longitudinally separable to form faced insulation sections 890 having lesser widths than the faced insulation assembly 820. The facing 822 is bonded to the surface of the insulation layer 824 by an adhesive layer 836. Like the faced insulation assembly 720 of Figure 16, the facing of faced insulation assembly 820 does not have preformed tabs and the insulation layer 824 is preferably made of a resilient insulation material, such as but not limited to a fiberglass insulation, that can be compressed in the direction of its width, e.g. laterally compressed an inch or more, and, after the compressive forces are released, will recover or substantially recover to its initial width. The insulation layer 824 has one or more longitudinally extending series of cuts and separable connectors, schematically represented by lines 892, which enable the insulation layer 824 to be pulled apart or separated by hand into the insulation sections 890 of lesser widths than the insulation layer 824. For each such series of cuts and separable connectors 892 in the insulation layer 824, the field portion 832 of the sheet 830 forming the facing 822 has a line of weakness 894 therein that is longitudinally aligned with the series of cuts and separable connectors and can be pulled apart or separated by hand. The line of weakness 894 may be formed as a perforated line, as an etched score line that reduces the thickness of the sheet material along the line, or the line may be otherwise weakened to facilitate the separation of the facing sheet along the line 894. The bonding layer 836 bonding the central field portion 832 of the facing to the first major surface 826 of the insulation layer 824 is coextensive with the central field portion of the facing.

When the insulation layer 824 of faced insulation assembly 820 is compressed in the direction of its width to fit between a pair of framing members that are spaced a distance less than the width of insulation layer 824, the lateral edge portions 896 of the facing sheet can be separated from the major surface 826 of the insulation layer and extended as tabs beyond the lateral surfaces of the laterally compressed insulation layer 824 to provide a water vapor transmission retarding barrier between the facing and the framing members and/or for attachment to the framing members. When an insulation section 890 of faced insulation assembly 820 is compressed in the direction of its width to fit between a pair of framing members that are spaced a distance less than the width of insulation section 890, the portions of the facing sheet adjacent the lateral surfaces of the compressed insulation section 890 (portions 896 and/or 898) can be separated from

the major surface 826 of the insulation layer and extended as tabs beyond the lateral surfaces of the laterally compressed insulation section 890 to provide a water vapor transmission retarding barrier between the facing and the framing members and/or for attachment to the framing members. However, the installer may choose to leave the facing 822 bonded to the major surface of the insulation layer so that no lateral tabs are formed on the insulation layer or sections of the insulation layer when they are compressed laterally.